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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KV](#) [MK](#)
SUBJECT: MACEDONIA: EXPECTATIONS FOR KOSOVO

REF: STATE 6162

Classified By: P/E CHIEF SHUBLER, REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D).

¶1. (C) Ambassador delivered reftel points to DUI President Ali Ahmeti, head of the largest and most influential ethnic Albanian opposition party in Macedonia, on January 22. She noted DUI's past constructive support for the Kosovo status process, and pointed out that the next several months would be a difficult time for the region. As a result, it would be incumbent upon all concerned to ensure a calm and peaceful environment. It would be especially helpful for ethnic Albanian political leaders to ensure that any post-CDI celebrations were low-key.

¶2. (C) Ahmeti said there would be low-key celebrations among Macedonia's ethnic Albanian population following a Kosovo CDI, most along the lines of private dinners and commemorative concerts, but "nothing spectacular," to mark the historic event. He reiterated, as he has in the past, that Albanians throughout the region were "very much indebted to the United States" for its support, and pledged that the post-CDI atmosphere among ethnic Albanians would "be calm."

¶3. (U) We will continue to pass reftel points to our eAlbanian interlocutors here, both in the opposition and government, and expect responses similar to Ahmeti's. Every eAlbanian party in Macedonia has been responsive to our requests in the past for restraint or other constructive action to support Kosovo status developments.
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